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| Form PTO 1449<br><br>U.S. Department of Commerce<br>Patent and Trademark Office<br><br>Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant | ATTY. DOCKET NUMBER<br><b>HIRA-0047</b> | SERIAL NUMBER<br><b>09/895,338</b> |
|  | APPLICANT<br><b>YAMAMOTO et al.</b>     |                                    |
|  | FILING DATE<br><b>June 29, 2001</b>     | GROUP                              |
|  |   |                                    |

## U.S. Patent Documents

| Examiner<br>Initial | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE       | NAME     | CLASS | SUB-<br>CLASS | FILING DATE |
|---------------------|-----------------|------------|----------|-------|---------------|-------------|
| <i>W</i>            | 5,904,822       | 05-18-1999 | Casavant |       |               | 11-13-1996  |
| <i>W</i>            | 4,592,089       | 05-27-1986 | Hartman  |       |               | 08-15-1983  |
|                     |                 |            |          |       |               |             |
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|                     |                 |            |          |       |               |             |
|                     |                 |            |          |       |               |             |

## Foreign Patent Documents

| Examiner<br>Initial | DOCUMENT NUMBER | FILING DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUB-<br>CLASS | TRANSLATION |    |
|---------------------|-----------------|-------------|---------|-------|---------------|-------------|----|
|                     |                 |             |         |       |               | YES         | NO |
|                     | WO 98/23950     | 12-01-1997  | PCT     |       |               | X           |    |
|                     |                 |             |         |       |               |             |    |
|                     |                 |             |         |       |               |             |    |
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|                     |                 |             |         |       |               |             |    |

## Other Documents (Including Author, Title, Date Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
|                 | European Search Report, dated October 15, 2003 |
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| EXAMINER        | <i>W. J. J.</i>                                |
| DATE CONSIDERED | 2/9/04   |

EXAMINER: Initial if citation is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw a line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant

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